

THE ALMA RECORD.

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 4, 1918

WHOLE NUMBER 2037

KING AND MURPHY STAGE HOT RACE

Republican is Elected Mayor
Again, Getting Fifteen Vote
Majority.

VERY LIGHT VOTE WAS OUT

Republicans Retained All Offices Except an Alderman in the Second Ward.

With one of the smallest votes in years at the polls Monday, Francis King was elected mayor of Alma for the third time, he having served Alma twice in the past in this capacity. That many of the voters who failed to express their desires on the city head, were Republicans is evidenced by the fact that Mr. King had only a majority of fifteen votes over his competitor Charles R. Murphy, Democrat.

The Record does not wish to detract in the least from the run which was made by Mr. Murphy, it having been a brilliant one, made the more so as Mr. Murphy, like Mr. King, did not put forth an effort to win the election. He ran far ahead of his ticket and indicated that he is one of the leading Democrats of Alma.

A hot fight developed for the election on Justice, Ralph Goggin and William Rogers staging a pretty fight, which was finally won by the Democrat nominee with a majority of 29 votes.

D. W. Adams, R., and Carl Gallagher, D., were unopposed for the election as treasurer and clerk.

In the wards only two good fights were on, both being staged over in the Democratic second, where Nick Sand, R. and Fred Bradford, D., were fighting it out for Supervisor, and Edwin McDougal, R. and Frank Smith were staging a scrap for alderman. The Republicans grabbed the office of Supervisor and Mr. Smith, the democratic nominee won the aldermanic honors from McDougal. Mr. Smith will be the only member of the council, to go into office with the coming of May, unless Alderman Adams resigns in time so that a successor may be appointed, before mayor-elect King goes into office.

Full county returns will be found on page four.

WAR LECTURES

Good Lecture Tuesday on General Science Course at College.

The course of general science lectures applied to war conditions which is being given at the college this semester enjoyed two lectures recently by Professor Stearns of the Biology department. These lectures upon the general subject of Camp Sanitation were not only interesting but also of value to the boys who may be seen leaving for camp.

When one considers that the annual loss to the country due to insects is one-tenth the total value of the crops, and that the majority of the diseases in camp are due directly or indirectly to insects, the need of insect control during this crisis is manifest. Typhus fever which causes so much trouble in camp wherever overcrowded, unhygienic conditions exist, is carried by the body louse or "Cootie" as it is called in the trenches. It is estimated that 95 per cent of the men in the trenches are infected with these insects and that the only way to control them is by thorough cleaning or disinfecting of the clothing. Diarrhea and dysentery as well as Asiatic cholera, all intestinal diseases of bacterial origin, are carried and spread by the common house fly, and the most effective means of preventing epidemics of these diseases is to control the fly. The bubonic plague is spread in the same way by the rat flea, making it necessary to exterminate the rat.

Prof. Stearns advocated the attachment of an entomologist to each army division to cooperate with the medical staff in supervising sanitary measures relative to insects in protecting against disease carriers and in protecting the foods of the army.

His second lecture dealt more specifically with the location of a camp site in reference to its sanitary qualifications, such as: high, well drained ground, and ample water supply; and with its internal arrangement so as to insure the most possible sanitary conditions. He made sketches of several of the camp plans now in use, showing how the location of various portions of the camp is conducive to health and cleanliness.

The water supply is a very important feature in locating a camp since

(Continued on page five)

HELP RED CROSS

Donate Old Newspapers Next Tuesday and Aid This Good Cause

Next Tuesday afternoon has been set apart by a few of the live hustlers of the city to gather up the old newspapers from the homes of Alma, which will be sold and the proceeds donated to the Red Cross, for use in the work of the local branch.

Mr. Collins, manager of Swift & Company, is behind the move to save this waste paper which is usually burned in the spring. He has generously donated one of the motor trucks of the plant and has also secured the use of another, which is donated by the Republic.

He asks that the people of the city who have such paper, to tie it up and place it on the front porch Tuesday noon, so that the truck drivers and their assistants, can get it during the afternoon without the bother of knocking at the door and wasting time, as they must cover the entire city. A generous response from the residents of the city in the matter of donating this paper, will mean a large addition to the fund of the Alma branch of the Red Cross.

Five, ten or fifteen cents worth of old newspapers from every home in the city will mean a large amount of paper in all, and would yield a handsome sum of money for the Red Cross. Everyone get behind the move.

W. G. GRIFFIN WAS

CONVICTED FRIDAY

Former Manager of Alma Grain & Lumber Company to Face Sentence Today.

William G. Griffin, former manager of the Alma Grain & Lumber company, who was arrested some months ago charged with embezzlement of funds from this company, was convicted in circuit court last Friday, and will be up before Circuit Judge Moinet today for sentence.

Griffin, who had been manager of the company for about two years, was released from employment there last fall, when suspicious are said to have first been aroused and shortly after this, it was discovered that there were irregularities in the books of the company.

When the first alleged shortage was discovered a warrant was secured for the arrest of Griffin on a charge of embezzlement, which was served on him a few days later.

He quickly secured bonds and was released pending his trial. The trial was started the fore part of last week and continued for several days, the evidence pointing strongly to the fact that Griffin had been relieving the company of funds at various times.

The jury, after being out fifteen minutes, returned a verdict of guilty.

Judge Moinet deferred sentence until today to give Griffin time to straighten up his affairs as much as possible.

The Record has heard rumors that an appeal will be taken from the verdict that has been rendered in circuit court, and that notice of the appeal will be filed today, when Griffin appears in court for sentence.

GOOD MEETING

Substitute Called for Gunner Depew Who Was Ill Sunday

With Gunner Depew, scheduled to speak at the First Presbyterian church here, ill Sunday, it became necessary to call in a substitute to take his place, and Louis D'Harcley, a Belgium, did the relief work and gave the large audience a fine talk on the conditions in Europe, which has grown out of the war crazy minds of the Germans.

He told in vivid colors of the tortures, which the Germans had been inflicting, not only on captured soldiers, but on the innocent women and children of the provinces which they were holding, or which they have held at some time or other during the grim struggle which is now going on against German autocracy.

His audience was carried along by him, and it was easy for anyone in the large church to picture in their minds eye, the stories of torture as he related them, so vivid and real were they.

William A. Bahlke of this city gave a short talk during the evening on the Third Liberty Loan, and made an urgent appeal to the men, women and children of Alma to support the loan, and aid in defeating the German military system which has given rise to this greatest of all wars, and which without defeat will over run the entire world.

Mrs. F. A. Gill and daughter, Miss Cleo, spent Sunday in Saginaw, guests at the home of relatives in that city.

TO ASK \$45,000 FOR NEW SCHOOL

Modern Ward School is Needed in the Eastern Part of the City.

RAPID GROWTH IS REASON

School Board Will Set Date for Meeting of Voters of District Tonight.

Tonight the school board will set the date for the calling of a special meeting of the voters of the school district, at which time the school board will ask for an appropriation of \$45,000 for a new ward school on the Elmwood site in the eastern part of the city.

It is expected that the board will set an early date, so that the appropriation may be secured as quickly as possible and the actual work of construction of the new school started, that it may be completed by fall, if possible.

Plans submitted by S. D. Butterworth of Lansing are said to be of the building, which the board has found to be the cheapest, and at the same time, to be equal to the requirements of the growth of the city. The plans of the floors and a water color sketch of the front of the school are on display in the window of the Murphy Drug store.

According to the plans the new building will be two stories in height and will be 110 feet by 72 feet wide. It will also have a full basement. It will be of fire proof construction.

According to the plans which will be adopted, if the proposition is carried by the voters, everything is being very nicely arranged for the care of the young people for whom the school is intended.

A large kindergarten room is found on the first floor of the building, as are three class rooms, these latter being 22 by 30 feet in size. Two large toilets are found at each end of the building on this floor. One at each end for the younger children and the other for the older ones. Just behind the boys toilets is located the office of the principal. Just behind the girls toilets is located a teachers' room. A large corridor, twelve feet wide runs the length of the building, and beyond this is located the three class rooms.

On the second floor of the building is located the auditorium, in itself a large class room. It is 35 by 63 feet in size. Corridors, twelve feet wide run around three sides of the auditorium, separating it from the other class rooms, five in number, all of them 22 by 30 feet in length. Each of the class rooms has a clothes closet in connection. In addition toilets are located on this floor.

It is understood that the plans of the building calls for re-inforced concrete floors throughout.

The need of a new school in Alma is becoming more and more apparent daily, as the attendance at the Alma public schools continues to increase at a rapid rate. There is every indication, that the increase will continue for some time, also.

At present the schools are taxed to the utmost to take proper care of the pupils, and in addition it became necessary last fall to use the assembly room in the city hall for school purposes, so great has been the increase.

The need of the school in the eastern end of the city is made at once apparent by a comparison of figures of the attendance from the east end of the city, beyond Bridge and Grover, as with that west of State street, the attendance of youngsters in the eastern part of the city being so much greater as to do away with any question as to the advisability of the location of the new school. The figures have been given in the columns of the Record before, and it is expected that at the coming meeting of the voters of the school district that they will again be given, at which time a further increase in favor of the attendance of youngsters from the eastern end of the city will without doubt be shown, because of the rapid increase in population in that section.

That the school is badly needed is also beyond question, as any of the voters will find by going into the situation to the slightest extent.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT

I wish to announce that I will be a candidate on the Republican ticket at the August primary election for the nomination of Register of Deeds. Thanking you in advance for your support. I am

Sincerely yours,
Bird J. Tucker.

37-22.

FEATURE EDITION

Alma Record Will Issue Feature Edition Latter Part of Month.

The latter part of this month the Alma Record will issue a feature edition on the City of Alma, which promises to be an unusual strong one.

A special solicitor and writer has been secured by The Record to aid in making this edition the success that it should be, and judging from all indications it will be the finest issue on the city which has yet come from the presses of any newspaper.

The industrial issue as it will be called, will consist of at least eight extra pages, devoted exclusively to Alma and her business interests, her fine homes, schools, churches, etc.

The Alma Record expects to print a large number of extra copies of this issue, but because of the demand that there is bound to be for extra copies, orders for extras should be placed at once.

LOAN DRIVE WILL

START SATURDAY

Chairman Robinson Will Have Committees in Shape for Great Campaign.

County Chairman J. W. Robinson of the third Liberty Loan, is continuing to be active in his appointment of committees and vice-chairmen in hopes of getting the county thoroughly organized for the opening of the Third Liberty Loan campaign, which starts next Saturday, the day being the first anniversary of the declaration of war against Germany.

Mr. Robinson has appointed vice-chairmen in each of the three largest places in the county. L. A. Sharp is the local chairman, Dr. A. R. Wheeler in St. Louis and Gaylord Nelson in Ithaca.

On the county executive committee he has appointed L. A. Sharp and William A. Bahlke of Alma, A. B. Darragh of St. Louis, A. E. Crawford of Breckenridge, E. Price of Ithaca and John R. Hudson of Middleton.

Mr. Robinson expects to start a county wide campaign with the opening gun on Saturday and continue the drive throughout the month in the hope that Gratiot county can hit way over the top and make a "bull's eye" this campaign. Every possible effort will be used in securing subscriptions to the Third Liberty Loan, and canvassers will be working throughout the county practically every day during the month.

Gratiot county has a big quota again for this campaign and it will take the united action of the entire county to make the grade and equal the quota which has been set.

The city of Alma in particular promises to be the scene of an active campaign. This city has been particularly well organized and everything is ready for the opening. One thousand dollars worth of bonds have already been taken in this city, this by the Episcopal church, and it is probable that this was the first subscription in the state for the Third Liberty Loan.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

It is of the utmost importance that each Sunday school report at once the gain made in the March campaign, ending Easter. Also the number of decisions on Decision Day.

Don't let our county fall behind. Here are a few sketches from reports in other counties.

—Lucas—"Increase on March 24, 90%. Movement proving a great success."

—Lake—"Percentage gained in Lake county, 68%."

—Arapah—"Gained 40% yesterday, gained 35%. At least 250 decisions."

—Grand Traverse—"General advance all along the line."

Will you help us get a report from Gratiot?

Don't forget the Rally day at Riverdale next Sunday. You will miss a live meeting if you do.

Mr. Washburn and Mr. Mohr are full of their subject. Every worker should hear them.

M. G. Skinner, Sec.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I wish to announce that on earnest solicitation of friends, that I am a candidate for nomination for sheriff on the Republican ticket at the primaries August 27, 1918. Your support will be appreciated.

Adv. A. T. Willert.

Eat Victory Bread' its good to eat.

36-41-e. M.

"The Guilty Man"—Idlehour Thursday. Adv.

Douglas Fairbanks in "The Modern Musketeers"—Idlehour—Sunday and Monday. Adv.

BOSTON CREATES A NEW RECORD

Local Recruiting Office Secured Over Sixty Men During March.

HUNDRED IN TWO MONTHS

Alma Office is Made Central Auxiliary Station and Corporal Boston Promoted to Sergeant.

The Alma recruiting officer, under the efficient direction of Corporal Tom Boston, has shoved up a peg, having been created a Central Auxiliary Recruiting station, as the result of the great campaign which Boston has waged during the past two months.

To become a central station it is necessary for a recruiting office to secure forty of more enlistments for two successive months, and Tom went clean over the top in his campaign here, having forty-two enlistments during February and then coming right back in March with a grand total of 62, making the best record for any single month since the office was opened here. His total for the two months is one hundred and four enlistments, exceeding Muskegon, Lansing, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Cadillac, Ludington, Niles and other stations out from the central station at Grand Rapids. Grand Rapids is the only station in the district to show more enlistments than Alma for the two month period.

For his good work Corporal Boston has been promoted to the rank of sergeant, this being his second promotion in less than three months. It shows that Boston is doing things around here in the number of recruits which he is securing.

The following extract of orders No. 78, will prove interesting to Alma people in this connection: "In compliance with instructions dated A. G. O. Washington, D. C., March 19th, 1918, the Auxiliary Recruiting Station at Alma, Mich., having been designated a Central Auxiliary Recruiting Station, the following appointments are hereby announced: To be sergeant: Corp'l Thomas Boston, G. S. Infantry."

H. M. FALES,
Capt. U. S. Army, Ret.
Recruiting Officer.

Among the new enlistments of the past week are Gerald D. Bates of Elsie, Clarence Waldo of Alma, Leonard Doyle of Alma, Charles Davis of Alma and Arthur Shores of Vestaburg.

Attention is also called to the fact that any previous service man with an honorable discharge from the army who wants to enlist for the service may apply at the station here.

COAL ZONES

Reasons Why Michigan Cannot Get Certain Coal are Given.

The zone system for distribution of Bituminous coal has been put into effect by the Federal Fuel Administrator. This predicts that this section of the lower Peninsula of Michigan will receive its coal from Ohio, Eastern Kentucky, and higher Volatile fields from West Virginia. It is particularly predicted that no pocahontas coals or other smokeless coals from West Virginia, shall come into this section. The object of this ruling is to void transportation.

It is predicted that the supply of hard coal for Michigan will be much less than the demand. The Fuel Administrator says:

"Consumers in Michigan will suffer a serious shortage next winter unless they begin to fill their bins at once and continue to accumulate their winter supply during the summer."

The mines in these states can fill the normal requirements of these consumers if they are kept running every day of the week, winter and summer."

Referring to the zone system he says:

"The patriotic co-operation of the many interests and individuals who may be affected by this cutting out of unnecessary transportation is confidently hoped for. When a consumer finds that he no longer has the opportunity to get his coal from a distant mine according to his custom, it is hoped that he will realize that his using another sort of coal is an essential part of the scheme of conservation in the interest of the national defense."

A leading authority on coal distribution says that 5,000 tons of coal must be moved to householders every day during the summer if the shortage, possibly more serious than that of last winter, is to be voided.

As a measure of self-protection as well as a patriotic duty, people should put in their supply of coal for next season at the earliest opportunity.

RED CROSS BENEFIT

High School Society Will Give Benefit April 10.

The Athens Society of Alma High School will present "Rosemary" at the high school building Wednesday, April 10th at 8:00 p. m. The proceeds of the evening will be given to the local branch of the Red Cross.

The setting of the play is in Boston at the time of the Civil War. An admission of 20c will be charged. The cast of characters is as follows:

Rosemary—from North Carolina
—Winifred Fookes.
Aunt Hephzibah—a Boston Gentlewoman—Isabel Watson.
Cousin Keziah—from Vermont
—Lorene Smith.
Grandma Enderly—Beulah Strong.
Kate—Rosemary's chum
—Esther Rhodes.
Laura—engaged to Augustus
—Vera Archer.

Gwen—a secessionist
—Dorothy Jackson.

Lucilla—a volunteer nurse
—Marie Knudson.

Fanny—the sergeant's sweetheart
—Margaret Drake.

Marthy and Mary—The Twins
—Margaret Barry and Mary Barry.

Norah—a housemaid—Mildred Smith.

Aunt Jimmy—Rosemary's mammy
—Dorothy Mason.

Juno—a runaway slave
—Margaret Holmes.

WRIGHT OPERA

HOUSE IS LEASED

Alma Masonic Lodge Leased House for Lodge Rooms and Starts Remodeling.

Wright Opera House, which has been doing duty for the past thirty years as a place of amusement and entertainment in this city, ceased to be an opera house when the new month was ushered in Monday, the house having been leased to the Masonic lodge of Alma, for a term of years.

The Masons of Alma will convert the opera house into a lodge room, and when the work of remodeling the house is finished the Masonic lodge will move its quarters from the second floor of the Church block to the new location.

For a number of years the Wright opera house was Alma's only place of entertainment and continued to be such, under various managements for years, with varying success.

Until the movie came into being here and became the center of attraction, the opera house enjoyed its best business, the coming of the movie with its popular prices, causing the same decline in the show business which has been experienced in all parts of the country, and of late years the opera house has been far from a paying investment to the Alma Realty company, which owns the structure in which the house has been located.

A number of opportunities have come up for the company to lease the house of late months, and after some weeks a deal was closed with the Masons of Alma, whereby they leased the place for a term of five years.

The work of remodeling the opera house has already been started and will be rushed to completion just as rapidly as possible and it is very probable that the next sixty days will see the Masonic order located in its new quarters in the Wright Opera House block.

BANQUETS OFFICIALS

City Clerk Gallagher Tenders Banquet to Retiring Mayor Tonight.

Tonight, the Paris cafe will be the scene of a banquet which is being tendered by City Clerk Carl E. Gallagher to Ira H. McKinney, retiring mayor of the city of Alma.

The present officials of the city, the aldermen, City Engineer Smith, City Treasurer Montigel, and Deputy Clerk Grow, will be guests at the affair.

SECURES PIANO PLAYER

The management of the Idlehour is fortunate indeed in having secured the services of Mr. Victor Gipe of Cadillac to play in this theatre beginning Sunday. Mr. Gipe has had several years experience playing for pictures and is considered one of the best in the state. Mr. Gipe will receive what is doubtless the largest salary paid any picture player outside of Detroit and Grand Rapids, but this is in accordance with the Idlehour policy that nothing is too expensive for their patrons. There will be music hereafter at all matinees.

Next Friday Jack Pickford in "Huck and Tom"—Idlehour of course. Adv.

COMMISSION FORM CARRIED IN ALMA

Over Hundred Majority Rolled Up for Change of the City Government.

DEFEAT GAS PROPOSITION

Carried in Ithaca and Breckenridge, Lost Out in St. Louis and Alma.

Three special propositions relating strongly to the city of Alma before the electors of the city Tuesday, two of which, the commission form of city government for the City of Alma was carried by a large vote, and nine charter revision commissioners were elected. The third proposition, the franchise rate raise of the Gratiot County Gas Company was defeated.

The proposed commission form of government for the City of Alma is one of the most far reaching pieces of legislation, locally, which the voters of Alma have had opportunity of expressing themselves upon in years, and while the vote was very light, it is noteworthy that it carried in each ward. The majority, 138 votes, in favor of the proposition leaves no doubt as to the wants of the voters in Alma. They want business management and efficiency if it can be secured.

The names of nine charter revision commissioners were also submitted for election to do away with a special election later, if the commission was adopted, and every one of the nine for whom petitions were submitted to the city clerk were elected, although during the course of the day many names were written on the ballots, but not numbers sufficient to defeat any of the men for whom petitions had been regularly submitted.

| Commission Form | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|------|--|
| Ward | Yes | No | Maj. | |
| 1 | 122 | 72 | 49 | |
| 2 | 85 | 46 | 39 | |
| 3 | 64 | 49 | 15 | |
| 4 | 76 | 42 | 34 | |
| Totals | 347 | 209 | 138 | |

Charter Revision Commission

| Wards | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Tot |
|----------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|
| J. W. Robinson | 125 | 83 | 58 | 51 | 317 |
| J. E. Mitchell | 103 | 63 | 51 | 44 | 261 |
| H. Montague | 99 | 61 | 59 | 44 | 263 |
| A. P. Cook | 102 | 61 | 49 | 43 | 255 |
| L. A. Sharp | 102 | 57 | 48 | 47 | 254 |
| Jotham Allen | 113 | 63 | 49 | 45 | 270 |
| F. E. Pollasky | 91 | 52 | 41 | 40 | 224 |
| J. T. Ewing | 94 | 49 | 50 | 43 | 228 |
| W. A. Bahlke | 99 | 59 | 50 | 43 | 251 |

The voters of Alma for some reason turned down the Gratiot County Gas Co., which had asked for an increase in its gas rate on a sliding scale basis. The proposition was voted upon as follows:

| Gas Raise | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|------|
| Wards | Yes | No | Maj. |
| 1 | 71 | 122 | 51 |
| 2 | 50 | 83 | 33 |
| 3 | 28 | 37 | 9 |
| 4 | 56 | 65 | 9 |
| Totals | 205 | 307 | 102 |

Both Ithaca and Breckenridge carried the gas proposition by an overwhelming vote, while St. Louis, like Alma, defeated the proposition. The votes in these places follow.

| Towns | Yes | No | Maj. |
|--------------|-----|-----|------|
| Ithaca | 105 | 16 | 89 |
| Breckenridge | 87 | 9 | 78 |
| St. Louis | 89 | 189 | 79 |

It is interesting to note that the proposition was carried in both Ithaca and Breckenridge by far more than the required three-fifths vote.

POLICE REPORT

The monthly police report submitted to the city council Tuesday evening by Chief of Police Oscar Vibber shows eight arrests during the past month. Four of these arrests were made under the city ordinances and four under the state laws. In addition there is a statement in regard to an investigation and the rounding up of nine boy burglars, for whom no warrant was issued as they came under the jurisdiction of the probate court.

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

The city of Alma will have the city teams gather all rubbish, such as tin cans, glass, broken dishes, etc., from April 15th to April 30th and all persons having any rubbish to be removed, must have same at the street line or alley or any suitable place where city teams can get rubbish. All ashes must be in piles at alleys.

Please put all rubbish in boxes or barrels so that same can be easily removed. Persons not complying with the above, will be asked to haul their own rubbish at their own expense.

By order of street commissioner,
H. J. Voller.